SEVERAL

QUERIES

Relating to the preſent

Proceedings in Parliament;

More eſpecially recommended to the

Conſideration of the BISHOPS.

I. HOW the Houſe of Commons can anſwer it to thoſe People whom they Repreſent, if now they have an Opportunity, they do not ſettle the Government upon ſuch a Foundation as will be likely, not only to preſerve the Nation from Foreign Enemies, but alſo from falling into the like unhappy Circumſtances which it is but juſt now eſcaped out of, and which in a great meaſure, have proceeded from a want of a right Settlement of Publick Affairs at the Reſtauration of King *Charles* the Second.

II. Whether this can be done without altering the Succeſſion, ſince the Birth of the Prince of *Wales* is not proved ſuppoſititious, (though perhaps no Body doubts but it is ſo)? And ſuppoſing it proved ſo, Whether it would not be more feaſible to make a Preſident now, than to try the Experiment firſt, when the next Right of Succeſſion is claimed by the *Infanta* of *Spain*; or perhaps ſome Prince her Heir, too ſtrong to reſiſt without the Aſſiſtance of the Prince of *Orange*, eſpe-

cially if there happen to be such Divisions amongst Us as are at this Time?

III. Whether it can be immagined to be worth the Prince of *Orange*'s while to leave *Holland*, where he is the chief Man, and become a Subject in *England*; nay, and have such an uncertain Interest in his stay here, that if his Wives Life chance to drop, perhaps he may be banished in a Years time, and not have a Place, as things may happen, to put his Head in? For his Interest in *Holland* must necessarily fall into other Hands; And no Body knows what fallings out may happen betwixt Us and the *Dutch*, or what other Contingencies may happen that may give cause of Disgust.

IV. Whether (considering the present State of Affairs) the Strength of the King of *France*, and the *Irish* Rebellion, (to say nothing of the Effects which the Entreaties, and subtile Insinuations of a Father must necessarily have upon any one that is good natur'd) it be safe to trust the Administration of Affairs to a Woman, though never so vertuous? And whether we shall be able to protect our selves against all these formidable Enemies, and bring things to a due Settlement, without the Assistance of the Prince of *Orange*, whose Foreign Alliances are such as we can never hope to obtain if we confer the Crown upon any other?

V. Whether it would be a greater real Kindness to the Princess of *Orange* to make her sole Queen, after such a manner as she will be likely to be turned out again; or to make her and her Husband joint King and Queen during their two Lives? I say, her Husband, who is a Prince, not only able to defend her and her Kingdom from all the Dangers that may happen, but also to take all the Trouble which may occur in the Administration of Affairs off her Hands, so that she will enjoy all the Pleasure of being Queen without any thing of Trouble: And we may add to this, that if it had not been for him, she had never enjoyed the Crown, nor the Nation their Freedom?

VI. Whe-

VI. Whether the Terms the Parliament ſhall make with one that can pretend no Right to the Crown but what they give him, will not be more likely to be kept by him, than by one that pretends a Title, and will be flattered up, both by Lawyers and Divines, (I mean, the Scum of them) with Notions of a Right *jure Divino*, and a Prerogative which cannot be parted with or aboliſh'd, though by the King's Conſent, or Act of Parliament?

VII. Whether the Houſe of Commons, upon theſe Conſiderations, and divers others too long to mention, will not think it neceſſary that the Prince and Princeſs of *Orange* be crowned King and Queen for their two Lives? and whether it can be imagined that the Commons ſhould ſo far betray their Country as to recede from this Point (ſo neceſſary for its Preſervation) notwithſtanding all the Diſturbances which the Biſhops ſhall make in the Houſe of Lords, and though they do not meet with the Concurrence of that Houſe ſo ſoon as in reaſon might be expected?

VIII. Whether the Houſe of Lords will ſuffer themſelves any longer to be impoſed upon by the Biſhops in a thing that will be ſo injurious to the Nation, as it will be not to comply with the Houſe of Commons in this great Point; which muſt neceſſarily put ſuch a damp upon Trade, that it will certainly be the Ruin of many hundreds of Families in the Nation whoſe dependance are upon Handy-Craft-Trades, to ſay nothing of the Diſadvantages which may accrue by ſuch a Delay to the poor Proteſtants in *Ireland?* and admitting they ſhould, whether the Circumſtances of Affairs would not in a little time force them to a compliance with the Houſe of Commons?

IX. Whether the Prince of *Orange* will not ſhew himſelf one of the unkindeſt Men in the World if he doth not ſtick by theſe People, till he ſeeth them ſecured, that have ventured their Lives and Fortunes for Him and their Country in confidence of his Protection? and whether he as Head of the

Proteſtant

Protestant Religion, be not obliged to stand by the 48 Protestant Lords, and House of Commons, that have served their Country so faithfully?

X. Whether it would not be Prudence in the Bishops (supposing their Designs be good, as I would hope they are) to shew their readiness to assist the Nobility and Gentry in carrying on this great Work, whereby they might settle the Church upon the surest Foundation, the Laws of God and of the Land, and continue themselves in the Affections of the People?

XI. Whether all the Protestant Blood which shall be spilt in *Ireland* by reason of these long Delays, will not be justly laid at the Bishops doors, if they proceed after the same manner they have begun?

And lastly, To answer the great Objection, that we shall lose the Kingdom of *Scotland* if we make the King elective for this Turn.

Whether the *Scots* can chuse any body that will be more agreeable to their Interests than the Prince of *Orange*? and supposing they can, Whether it be not madness to imagine, since they have a different Parliament, different Laws, and a different Original Contract (so that the King may commit a Forfeiture there, when he hath committed none here, or a Forfeiture here, when he hath committed none there) that they will not place the Crown upon him without any respect to what is done here, whether we make it a Forfeiture, or only a bare Demise?

FINIS.

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